

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 120856
ORIGIN OES-07

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-----260129Z 044237 /62
R 252024Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 120856

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TBIO, CA

SUBJECT: R/V WESTWARD CLEARANCE REQUEST, 27 JULY - 7 SEPT
1977

1. R/V WESTWARD, A PRIVATE SAILING VESSEL OPERATED BY THE SEA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (SEA), IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN CANADIAN WATERS. THE WESTWARD COMBINES OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH WITH STUDENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

2. THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH IS TO:

(A) STUDY THE DISTRIBUTION, BEHAVIOR, AND RELATION TO THE ENVIRONMENT OF MARINE MAMMALS BETWEEN CAPE COD AND NEWFOUNDLAND. STUDIES WILL INCLUDE COLLECTION OF DATA ON DISTRIBUTION AND POPULATION SIZE (EMPHASIS ON HUMPBACK AND RIGHT WHALES), INTERSPECIFIC BEHAVIOR, RECORDING OF UNDERWATER SOUNDS (EMPHASIS ON KILLER WHALES), OBSERVATIONS ON PIGMENTATION (EMPHASIS ON ALBINISM IN PILOT
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 120856

WHALES), AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISTRIBUTION OF WHALES, BOTTOM TOPOGRAPHY, TEMPERATURE STRUCTURE, AND KRILL/CAPELIN ABUNDANCE.

(B) STUDY MIDWATER FAUNA OF THE WESTERN NORTH ATLANTIC.

AN ISAACS-KIDD MIDWATER TRAWL WILL BE USED TO SAMPLE THE

MIDWATER REGION IN THE VICINITY OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF
EDGE. THIS PROGRAM IS IN COOPERATION WITH DR. RICHARD
BACKUS AT THE WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION.

(C) COMPILE A PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE
LAURENTIAN CHANNEL AREA. MEASUREMENTS ON TEMPERATURE
STRUCTURE AND SALINITY VALUES WILL BE TAKEN IN SEVERAL
SW TO NE TRANSECTS ACROSS THE LAURENTIAN CHANNEL TO
CONTINUE STUDIES ON THE DISTINCTIVE FEATURES IN THE WATER
COLUMN RESULTING FROM THE INTERACTION OF OUTFLOW FROM THE
ST. LAWRENCE, APPARENT INTRUSION OF THE LABRADOR CURRENT,
AND PRESENCE OF DEEPER WATER MASSES. AS IN 1976, DATA
WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MR. G. HORNE AND OTHERS AT THE
BEDFORD INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY.

(D) CONDUCT METEOROLOGICAL DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING.
WEATHER OBSERVATIONS ARE TAKEN PERIODICALLY, AND CALLED
IN VIA THE SHIP'S RADIOTELEPHONE TO A NATIONAL WEATHER
SERVICE CENTER IN PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA. OBSERVATIONS
BY WESTWARD, OTHER VESSELS, AND LAND STATIONS, FEED INTO
A CENTRALIZED NETWORK, ARE COMPUTERIZED, AND RESULT IN THE
SYNOPTIC WEATHER REPORTS AND FORECASTS ISSUED BY THIS
AGENCY.

(E) CONDUCT LONGLINING AND SHARK TAGGING. SHARK TAGGING
BY WESTWARD IS PART OF A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF CAPTURE-
RECAPTURE OF SHARKS COORDINATED BY JOHN CASEY AT THE
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE LAB IN NARRAGANSETT,
RHODE ISLAND. THE RESULTS ARE USED TO PLOT THE RATHER
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PAGE 03 STATE 120856

EXTENSIVE MOVEMENTS/MIGRATIONS OF MANY SPECIES OF SHARKS
-- WHICH APPEAR TO BE COMPARABLE IN MANY WAYS TO THE
MIGRATIONS OF BIRDS, WHALES, TUNA, TURTLES, AND OTHER
WIDE-RANGING SPECIES.

3. EQUIPMENT TO BE USED INCLUDES PASSIVE ACOUSTIC GEAR,
CAMERAS, BIOLOGICAL NETS AND TRAWLS.

4. CHIEF SCIENTIST IS DR. JAMES H. W. HAIN OF SEA AND
SHIP'S CAPTAIN IS WALLACE C. STARK. THERE IS A CREW
OF 6, SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 3, AND 22 STUDENTS.

5. WESTWARD IS 220 GROSS TONS, 100 FT. LONG AND HAS A
DRAFT OF 12.5 FT. RADIO CALL SIGN IS WZL 8190 AND SHIP
MONITORS EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES.

6. PORT CALLS ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:

WOODS HOLE - 27 JULY

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND - 9-11 AUGUST
ST. PIERRE, MIQUELON - 16-17 AUGUST
DARTMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA - 23-25 AUGUST
ST. ANDREWS, NOVA SCOTIA - 30-31 AUGUST
WOODS HOLE - 7 SEPTEMBER

7. A BERTH IS AVAILABLE FOR ONE GOC PARTICIPANT AND ALL
DATA RESULTS WILL BE FREELY SHARED.

8. ACTION: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE FOR
R/V WESTWARD TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN
GOC WATERS DURING 27 JULY - 7 SEPTEMBER 1977. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 25-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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Litigation History:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2368322
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Subject: R/V WESTWARD CLEARANCE REQUEST, 27 JULY - 7 SEPT 1977
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vdkgvwkey: odbcr://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/10bbbc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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